Message Text

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 02517 051111Z ACTION OES-09

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 COME-00 PM-05 DODE-00 SSO-00

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O 051030Z AUG 78 FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7362 DIR IAGS FORT CLAYTON CZ//IAGS-TD-S

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, PORG, GY

SUBJECT: IGS

- 1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED FOLLOWING CABLE FROM DIR IAGS FORT CLAYTON:
- 1. PERMISSION IS REQUESTED FROM GUYANA COMMISSIONER OF LAND AND SURVEYS OR OTHER APPROPRIATE AGENCY FOR OCCUPATION OF GEORGETOWN INTERNATIONAL GRAVITY BASE STATIONS DURING THE PERIOD 15-30 AUG 78.
- 2. DIFFERENTIAL GRAVITY MEASUREMENTS WILL BE MADE BETWEEN GUYANA, TRINIDAD AND VENEZUELA FOR INTEGRATION OF REGIONAL GRAVITY SURVEYS. COMMISSION WILL CONSIST OF ONE US ARMY AIRCRAFT FROM THE CANAL ZONE, THREE CIVILIAN VENEZUELAN OBSERVERS AND ONE CIVILIAN US OBSERVER FROM DEFENSE MAPPING AGENCY INTER AMERICAN GEODETIC SURVEY. OBSERVATIONS WILL CONSIST OF REPEATED OCCUPATIONS OF EXISTING STATIONS POINTS FOR 30 MINUTE PERIODS WITH SMALL PORTABLE INSTRUMENTS.
- 3. PROJECT IS IN FULFILLMENT OF RECOMMENDATIONS BY PAN AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL APPLICATION. DATA RESULTS WILL BE RELEASED FOR GENERAL DISTRIBUTION.

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2. NEITHER EMBASSY FILES NOR OUR ADMITTEDLY SHORT COLLECTIVE MEMORY INDICATE WHETHER IAGS HAS SOUGHT PERMISSION FROM GUYANA FOR SUCH MISSIONS PREVIOUSLY. IF NOT, AND IF GUYANESE GOVERNMENT ON POLITICAL AS WELL AS SCIENTIFIC SIDE NOT FULLY VERSED ON ALL ASPECTS OF PROPOSAL, PROJECT MAY WELL RAISE SUSPICIONS, PARTICULARLY WITH INVOLVEMENT OF VENEZUELAN NATIONALS, THAT WOULD DELAY GRANTING PERMIS-

SION CONSIDERABLY BEYOND AUGUST 15 TARGET DATE. PLEASE THEREFORE LET US KNOW IF GUYANESE FULLY INFORMED AND WITH WHOM PREVIOUS CONTACTS HAVE BEEN MADE.

- 3. A SECOND AREA OF SENSITIVITY IS UTILIZATION OF AMERICAN MILITARY AIRCRAFT, SUBJECT ON WHICH GUYANESE ARE SENSITIVE. ONLY RECENT INSTANCES EMBASSY CAN RECALL WHEN US MILITARY AIRCRAFT ARRIVED GEORGETOWN WERE 1977 VISIT OF AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE VISIT SAME YEAR. (IN LATTER CASE GUYANESE INSISTED THAT ALL MILITARY MARKINGS BE PAINTED OVER BEFORE ARRIVAL.) CLEARANCE FOR MILITARY AIRCRAFT FOR IAGS MISSION MIGHT PROVE DIFFICULT TO OBTION. (EMBASSY WILL NEED INFORMATION FAA INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT GUIDE FOR CLEARANCE ANY AIRCRAFT.)
- 4. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S AND IAG'S COMMENTS ON ABOVE BEFORE MAKING FORMAL REQUEST BY NOTE TO MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS WITH COPY TO LAND AND SURVEYS. DWYER

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